



A DaimlerChrysler Company

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May 2003
FL383BCD
NHTSA 00V-246.001
REMINDER NOTICE

Subject: TRW Ball Stud and Socket Assemblies - Expanded (Tie Rod Ends)

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and the Canadian Motor Vehicles Safety Act.

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its Freightliner Trucks Division and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation and Sterling Truck Corporation, has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists on specific Freightliner Century Class, FLD, FLN, and Argosy vehicles; Sterling A-Line, L-Line, and Acterra vehicles; and FCCC MT-45, MT-55, FS65 and RV chassis manufactured from June 1999 through November 1999 and from April 2000 through June 2000.

The ball stud and socket assemblies on certain tie rods may contain bearing surfaces that have a less than specified case depth or hardness. They may wear out prematurely, resulting in a separation of the ball stud from the socket. This may cause a full or partial loss of steering control and possible vehicle crash without prior warning.

The modification consists of replacing the affected ball stud and socket assemblies with ball stud and socket assemblies of a different design.

Our records indicate that your vehicle(s) has not yet had this recall performed. Please make arrangements to have this repair done as soon as possible. If it has been completed, please disregard this letter.

Repair kits are now available for authorized dealers to order. Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have your vehicle(s) modified and to assure that parts are available at the dealer.

When you contact your dealer, refer to campaign number **FL383BCD**. Once kit(s) are received at the dealership, the modification will take approximately two hours and will be performed at no charge to you.

IMPORTANT: When the recall has been completed, please ensure that a label has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **FL383** and the date the work was performed.

If you do not own the vehicle that corresponds to the identification number(s) which appears on the Recall Notification, please return the notification to the Warranty Campaigns Department with any information you can furnish that will assist us in locating the present owner. If you have leased this vehicle, please make sure this notification is immediately forwarded to the lessee.

If you are unable to have the defect remedied without charge and within a reasonable time after you tender the vehicle for repair, please contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP, after normal business hours. You may also wish to notify the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 7th Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, or phone (888) 327-4236. If your vehicle is involved in the Canadian portion, you may notify the Manager, Recall and Public Compliance, Road and Motor Vehicle Traffic Safety Branch, Transport Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, or phone (613) 993-9851.

We regret any inconvenience this action may cause but feel certain you understand our interest in motor vehicle safety.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

Freightliner LLC is a Member
of the Daimler-Benz Group